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REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON RELATIONS WITH THE HOST COUNTRY

Report of the Sixth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Walid OBEIDAT (Jordan)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The item entitled "Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country" was included in the provisional agenda of the fiftieth session of the General Assembly pursuant to paragraph 9 of Assembly resolution 49/56 of 9 December 1994.

2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 22 September 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the Sixth Committee.

3. In connection with the item, the Sixth Committee had before it the report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country 1/ and a letter dated 17 March 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/50/112-S/1995/207).

4. The report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country was introduced by its Chairman at the 42nd meeting, on 20 November 1995.

5. The Sixth Committee considered the item at its 42nd to 45th meetings, from 20 to 22 and on 24 November 1995. The summary records of those meetings contain the views of the representatives who spoke during the Committee's consideration of the item (see A/C.6/50/SR.42-45).

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 26 (A/50/26).

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II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.6/50/L.8

6. At the 44th meeting, on 22 November, the representative of Cyprus, on behalf of Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire and Cyprus, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country" (A/C.6/50/L.8).

7. At the 45th meeting, on 24 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.6/50/L.8 without a vote (see para. 8).

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE SIXTH COMMITTEE

8. The Sixth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country, 2/

Recalling Article 105 of the Charter of the United Nations, the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations 3/ and the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations 4/ and the responsibilities of the host country,

Recognizing that effective measures should continue to be taken by the competent authorities of the host country, in particular to prevent any acts violating the security of missions and the safety of their personnel,

Noting the spirit of cooperation and mutual understanding that has guided the deliberations of the Committee on issues affecting the United Nations community and the host country,

Welcoming the increased interest shown by Member States in participating in the work of the Committee,

1. Endorses the recommendations and conclusions of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country contained in paragraph 67 of its report;

2/ Ibid.

3/ Resolution 22 A (I).

4/ See resolution 169 (II).

2. Considers that the maintenance of appropriate conditions for the normal work of the delegations and the missions accredited to the United Nations is in the interests of the United Nations and all Member States, and expresses the hope that the host country will continue to take all measures necessary to prevent any interference with the functioning of missions;

3. Expresses its appreciation for the efforts made by the host country, and hopes that problems raised at the meetings of the Committee will continue to be resolved in a spirit of cooperation and in accordance with international law;

4. Notes with appreciation the report of the Secretary-General on the problem of diplomatic indebtedness, 5/ stresses that such indebtedness is a matter of significant concern to the United Nations and that non-payment of undisputed debts reflects badly on the entire diplomatic community and tarnishes the image of the Organization itself, reaffirms that non-compliance with contractual obligations cannot be condoned or justified, and endorses the proposals and procedures on the issue of financial indebtedness set out in annex II to the current report of the Committee;

5. Urges the host country to consider lifting travel controls with regard to certain missions and staff members of the Secretariat of certain nationalities, and in this regard notes the positions of the affected States, of the Secretary-General and of the host country;

6. Calls upon the host country to review measures and procedures relating to the parking of diplomatic vehicles, with a view to responding to the growing needs of the diplomatic community and to consult with the Committee on these issues;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to remain actively engaged in all aspects of the relations of the United Nations with the host country;

8. Requests the Committee to continue its work, in conformity with General Assembly resolution 2819 (XXVI) of 15 December 1971;

9. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session the item entitled "Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country".

5/ A/AC.154/277.